

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-6906
judiciary.house.gov

February 10, 2026

The Honorable Pamela J. Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

Your Department of Justice (DOJ) has abruptly stripped Ed Martin of his role leading the Weaponization Working Group and is apparently planning to push him out of the Department entirely.¹ Why? What have you learned about Ed Martin that finally led you to fire him?

You enthusiastically hired Mr. Martin despite his active participation in the January 6th insurrection, which he called “Mardi Gras in DC.”² You kept him even as, weeks into the new job, he was already being investigated for violating basic ethics rules by representing both the government and a criminal defendant in the same matter.³ You stuck by him as he lawlessly demoted and fired scores of outstanding, decorated career prosecutors simply for doing their jobs after January 6, 2021, and holding cop-beaters and other violent insurrectionists to account.⁴ You stood with him as he sent menacing letters threatening criminal prosecution to Democrats in Congress in what he dubbed “Operation Whirlwind,” demanding that Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer “clarify” political remarks made at an abortion rights rally in 2020, threatening Representative Robert Garcia over his criticism of Elon Musk, and asking Representative Eugene Vindman to explain his personal finances.⁵ You even had his back despite his long and

¹ Ryan J. Reilly, *Ed Martin Out as Leader of DOJ's 'Weaponization' Group, Sources Say*, NBC NEWS (Feb. 2, 2026), <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/ed-martin-doj-weaponization-czar-sources-say-rcna257093>.

² Brad Heath, Sarah N. Lynch & Andrew Goudsward, *Top Trump Prosecutor in DC Dropped Federal Case Against Capitol Rioter He Represented*, REUTERS (Feb. 5, 2025), <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/top-trump-prosecutor-dc-who-was-present-capitol-riot-dropped-us-case-against-2025-02-05/>.

³ Rebecca Beitsch, *Ed Martin, Outgoing U.S. Attorney, Discloses He Is Subject of Ethics Probe*, THE HILL (May 15, 2025), <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5302691-ed-martin-dc-ethics-investigation/>.

⁴ Sarah N. Lynch, *Ousted Top Federal Prosecutor in Washington Facing Ethics Probe*, REUTERS (May 14, 2025), <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/ousted-top-federal-prosecutor-washington-facing-ethics-probe-2025-05-14/>; Spencer S. Hsu & Tom Jackman, *D.C. U.S. Attorney Fires Jan. 6 Prosecutors, Launches New Probes*, WASH. POST (Jan. 31, 2025), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2025/01/31/jan6-prosecutors-fired-dc-martin/>.

⁵ See, e.g., *Read Interim U.S. Attorney Ed Martin's Letters to Democratic Lawmakers*, WASH. POST (Feb. 19, 2025), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2025/02/19/ed-martin-dc-letters-schumer-garcia/>.

troubling association with antisemites and Nazi sympathizers, including as reports emerged about his close friendship with the Hitler-loving insurrectionist Timothy Hale-Cusanelli.⁶

You welcomed him to DOJ's headquarters even after Senators announced they would not support his nomination to be U.S. Attorney in D.C, including Republican Senator Thom Tillis, who declared: "I have no tolerance for anybody who entered the building on January 6th."⁷ You didn't fire him even after it emerged that he had failed to disclose to the Senate approximately 150 appearances on Russian state media outlets RT and Sputnik, during which he amplified Kremlin talking points and propaganda.⁸

Since you appointed Mr. Martin as Pardon Attorney at DOJ, he has continued to amass a horrific record. Under Mr. Martin's watch, the Administration has granted clemency to a parade of undeserving Trump allies and loyalists, disgracing the constitutional ideals behind the pardon power. It has extended spoils to, among others, 77 individuals involved in the fake electors scheme to overturn the 2020 election, including Rudy Giuliani and Mark Meadows; former Sheriff Scott Jenkins, a vocal Trump supporter convicted of bribery; crypto billionaire Changpeng Zhao, whose company entered into a business deal with the Trump family's cryptocurrency venture; and disgraced former Congressman George Santos.⁹

Similarly, under Mr. Martin's leadership at DOJ's Weaponization Working Group, the Department has tried (and often humiliatingly failed) to bring baseless charges against President Trump's political enemies. After making unsubstantiated allegations of mortgage fraud against New York State Attorney General Letitia James, Mr. Martin showed up outside Attorney General James's personal residence in Brooklyn and posed for press photos, violating longstanding DOJ policy.¹⁰ When veteran career prosecutors resigned rather than bring baseless charges against former FBI Director James Comey and Attorney General James, the newly installed and spectacularly unqualified Acting U.S. Attorney Lindsey Halligan brought new

⁶ See Tom Dreisbach, *Trump Nominee Gives Misleading Testimony About Ties to Alleged 'Nazi Sympathizer'*, NPR (May 1, 2025), <https://www.npr.org/2025/05/01/nx-s1-5380933/ed-martin-trump-hale-cusanelli-antisemitic>; Press Release, *Ranking Member Raskin, Nadler, Schneider to President Trump: Ed Martin Is Unfit to Serve in Any Capacity in Federal Government*, H. COMM. ON THE JUDICIARY (May 13, 2025), <https://democrats-judiciary.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/ranking-member-raskin-nadler-schneider-to-president-trump-ed-martin-is-unfit-to-serve-in-any-capacity-in-federal-government>.

⁷ Jordain Carney & Hailey Fuchs, *Tillis Says He'll Oppose Ed Martin, Dealing Grave Blow to Trump's DC Prosecutor Pick*, POLITICO (May 6, 2025), <https://www.politico.com/live-updates/2025/05/06/congress/thom-tillis-opposes-ed-martin-00330664>.

⁸ Tom Nichols, *Ed Martin Has Completely Disqualified Himself*, THE ATLANTIC (Apr. 17, 2025), <https://www.theatlantic.com/newsletters/archive/2025/04/ed-martin-russian-tv-trump/682488/>.

⁹ See, e.g., Jeremy Kohler, *How Trump Has Exploited Pardons to Reward Allies and Supporters*, PROPUBLICA (Nov. 12, 2025), <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-pardons-clemency-george-santos-ed-martin>; *Who Has President Trump Pardoned and Why?*, NPR (Nov. 10, 2025), <https://www.npr.org/2025/11/10/nx-s1-5587875/trump-pardons-insider-political-orbit-second-term>; Kenneth P. Vogel, *Trump Pardoned Tax Cheat After Mother Attended \$1 Million Dinner*, N.Y. TIMES (May 27, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/27/us/politics/trump-pardon-paul-walczak-tax-crimes.html>.

¹⁰ Aaron Katersky et al., *Head of DOJ Anti Weaponization Group Calls on NY AG Letitia James to Resign*, ABC NEWS (Aug. 19, 2025), <https://abcnews.go.com/US/head-doj-anti-weaponization-group-calls-ny-ag/story?id=124780652>.

indictments against both individuals, which a federal court tossed out.¹¹ The Department has since tried and failed, twice, to indict Attorney General James on mortgage fraud charges.¹² In the meantime, the Department has pursued myriad other politically motivated investigations and prosecutions, including against Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, Senator Adam Schiff, and many others.¹³ Mr. Martin has remained through all of these astonishing debacles.

Now, recent reports indicate that Mr. Martin may have illegally shared sensitive grand jury information with unauthorized individuals and improperly deputized people outside the Department to assist with investigations.¹⁴ A DOJ review reportedly has concluded that Mr. Martin shared grand jury material related to inquiries into Senator Schiff outside the DOJ and then lied about having done so.¹⁵ A federal grand jury in Maryland has also been examining whether Mr. Martin and Federal Housing Finance Agency Director Bill Pulte deployed two individuals to assist with the investigation of Senator Schiff, even though neither was authorized to conduct federal investigations or review sensitive investigative materials.¹⁶ Improperly sharing grand jury information is a serious breach of Justice Department rules and can lead to criminal charges.¹⁷

Given how much of Mr. Martin's flagrant misconduct you have been willing to overlook as you championed and promoted him, anything that finally prompted you to remove him—including any criminal disclosure of grand jury materials—must be spectacularly egregious. Congress and the American people deserve to know: what is the unforgivable offense that finally, after all his wild transgressions and all your humiliating passivity, cost Ed Martin his job?

¹¹ Kyle Cheney et al., *Comey, James Cases Dismissed as Judge Disqualifies Interim US Attorney Lindsey Halligan*, POLITICO (Nov. 24, 2025), <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/11/24/james-comey-letitia-james-cases-lindsey-halligan-00666896>.

¹² Sam Levine, *Grand Jury Again Declines to Indict Letitia James on Mortgage Fraud Charges*, THE GUARDIAN (Dec. 11, 2025), <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/dec/11/letitia-james-dismissed-second-indictment>.

¹³ Kyle Cheney & Josh Gerstein, *Trump May Have Damaged the Case Against Jerome Powell Before It's Even Begun*, POLITICO (Jan. 13, 2026), <https://www.politico.com/news/2026/01/13/jerome-powell-donald-trump-investigation-00722860>.

¹⁴ Hannah Rabinowitz et al., *Justice Department Review Found Trump Ally Ed Martin Improperly Leaked Grand Jury Material in Probe of President's Foes*, CNN (Feb. 4, 2026), <https://www.cnn.com/2026/02/04/politics/ed-martin-review-improperly-handled-grand-jury>; Katelyn Polantz et al., *Justice Department Is Investigating Handling of Adam Schiff Mortgage Fraud Probe Led by Ed Martin and Bill Pulte*, CNN (Nov. 20, 2025), <https://www.cnn.com/2025/11/20/politics/justice-department-adam-schiff-ed-martin-bill-pulte-christine-bish>.

¹⁵ Hannah Rabinowitz et al., *Justice Department Review Found Trump Ally Ed Martin Improperly Leaked Grand Jury Material in Probe of President's Foes*, CNN (Feb. 4, 2026), <https://www.cnn.com/2026/02/04/politics/ed-martin-review-improperly-handled-grand-jury>.

¹⁶ *Id.*


¹⁷ See also Carol Leonnig & Ken Dilanian, *Grand Jury Investigating Potential Misconduct in Probes of Trump Critics*, MS NOW (Nov. 20, 2025), <https://www.ms.now/news/grand-jury-trump-critics-ed-martin-bill-pulte-rca244980>.

Accordingly, pursuant to the House Judiciary Committee's oversight jurisdiction over the Department of Justice, I demand that you provide the following to the Committee no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 20, 2026:

1. All documents and communications regarding the demotion or removal of Ed Martin from any position at the Department of Justice;
2. Any internal reports, investigations, findings, or assessments regarding misconduct or wrongdoing by Ed Martin, including any investigations conducted by the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, any U.S. Attorney's Office, the Office of Professional Responsibility, or the Office of the Inspector General;
3. All documents regarding any investigation into allegations that Ed Martin improperly shared grand jury materials or deputized unauthorized individuals to assist with investigations; and
4. All documents regarding disciplinary complaints or ethics investigations involving Ed Martin.

I look forward to your prompt compliance with this important oversight request.

Very truly yours,



Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman